

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 DHA-02 NEA-10 /088 W

-----049230 041419Z /53

R 041246Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9608

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: OAU SUMMIT II-JULY 3

REF: LIBREVILLE 1677 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: FIRST DAY OF SUBSTANTIVE DEBATE DEVOTED TO ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND FIRST FOUR OF 18 SCHEDULED SPEECHES BY CHIEFS OF STATE AND HEADS OF DELEGATION. MOBUTU ENTERED RESERVATION ON SHABA PORTION OF OAU SEC GEN'S REPORT, WHILE MENGISTU ATTACKED SUDAN AND SOMALIA IN OPENING SALVO OF DEBATE ON HORN. END SUMMARY.

1. SUMMIT BEGAN CLOSED SESSIONS MORNING OF JULY 3 WITH ADOPTION OF 20 POINT AGENDA. PRINCIPAL ITEMS IN ORDER OF CONSIDERATION WILL BE : (A) RECOMMENDATIONS OF 11TH EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERIAL AT KINSHASA (ON ECONOMIC ISSUES); (B) RESOLUTIONS OF 28TH MINISTERIAL AT LOME (WHICH INCLUDE PATRIOTIC FRONT ISSUE); (C) RECOMMENDATIONS OF PRESENT MINISTERIAL; (D) SENEGALESE/ALGERIAN NON-INTERVENTION RESOLUTION; (D) NIGERIAN RESOLUTION ON OAU SEC GEN'S POWERS IN INTERSTATE CONFLICTS; (E) POSSIBLE GROUP OF 77

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SUMMIT: (F) COMOROS AND MAYOTTE (PROPOSED BY COMOROS); (G) REGRETTABLE EVENTS OF MAJUNGA (ALSO PROPOSED BY COMOROS); (H) COMPLAINT OF CHAD AGAINST LIBYA (PROPOSED BY CHAD); AND (I) SETTING DATE AND LOCATION FOR SAHARAN SUMMIT (PROPOSED BY ALGERIA).

2. AFTER ADOPTION AGENDA, OAU SEC GEN ETEKI PRESENTED

HIS REPORT WHICH WAS ACCEPTED. PRESIDENT MOBUTU OF ZAIRE, HOWEVER, ENTERED FORMAL RESEFVATION ON SECTION OF REPORT DEALING WITH SHABA INVASION, CHARGING THAT SECGEN'S STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT IT DIFFICULT TO SAY WHETHER OR NOT EVENTS IN SHABA WERE INTERNAL MATTER WAS "INTELLECTUALLY DISHONEST". ZAIRE EXPECTED TO RE-RAISE ISSUE DURING DISCUSSION OF SENEGALESE/ALGERIAN NON-INTERVENTION AGENDA ITEM.

3. AFTERNOON SESSION JULY 3 DEVOTED TO STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, THOUGH ONLY FOUR OF EIGHTEEN SCHEDULED SPEECHES ACTUALLY MADE (SADAT, MENGISTU, TOLBERT AND OBASANJO). AT CLOSE OF SESSION, 14 REMAINING SPEECHES IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER WERE: TOGO, CONGO, CHAD,UGANDA, NIGER, CAE, MOROCCO,TUNISIA, BURUNDI, SOMALIA, GHANA, EQUATORIAL GUNEA, SEYCHELLES AND LIBYA. (COPIES OF SPEECHES WHICH BECOME AVAIALBE TO EMBASSY WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT AND RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES).

4. EMBASSY HAS NOT YET SEEN SADAT SPEECH EXCEPT IN ARABIC AND ILL REPORT FURTHER WHEN TEXT BECOMES AVAILABBLE IN ENGLISH OR FRENCH.

5. ETHIOPIA'S MENGISUT DELIVERED STORNLY WORDED SPEECH THAT LASTED OVER ONE HOUR AND APPARENTLY LEFT FAVORALBE IMPRESSION. MENGISUT STATED EPMG PREPARED TO TRAIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITHIN SHORT TIME EFFICIENT FIGHTING FORCE OF 1,000 MEN FOR LIBERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THAT FORCE COULD BE RAISED TO 5,000 WITHIN ONE YEAR. FIGHTERS WOULD BE SLEEECTED IN CONSULTATIN WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND OAU LIBERATION COMMITTEE.

6. MENGISUT ALSO DELIVERED STONG ATTACK AGAINST SUDAN AND SOMALIA WHICH LONG ON FACTS AND BY PAST STANDARDS RELATIVELY FREE OF DIATRIBE. MENGISUT CONTENTED THAT ESSENCE OF ETHIO-SUDANESE PROBLEM WAS SUDAN'S NON-OBSERVANCE OF PRINCIPLES OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER STTES. DETER- IORATONOF ETHIO-SOMALI RELATIONS HAD ITS GENESIS IN FLAGRANT VIOALATION BY SOMALIA OF BOTH THESE PRINCIPLES, HE ALLEGE, AND COMPLETE GSDR DISREGARD FOR DECISIONS OF OAU AND NON ALIGNED STTES REGARDING STATE BOUNDARIES. TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM, MENGISTU PROPOSED THAT OAU SET UP INVESTIGATIVE PANEL TO COMPILE DATA ON OBSERVANCE OR NON OBSERVANCE OF OAU CHARTER PRINCIPLES AND RESOLUTIONS WHICH WOULD REPORT ANNUALLY TO SUMMIT AND THAT ON BASIS OF THIS REPORT OAU COULD TAKE APPROPARIATE DECISIONS TO PENALIZE RECALCITRANT STATES.

7. LIBERIA'S TOLBERT DELIVERED MODERATE AND CONSTRUCTIVE SPEECH STRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DANGERS OF BIG POWER AND INTER AFRICAN INTERVENTION. HE CALLED FOR DIALOGUE RATHER THAN DIATRIBE AND CONCESSIONS BY INDUSTRIAL NATIONS FOR MORE EQUITABLE ECONOMIC ORDER. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH INTERNATIONAL GRADUALISM AND TOLERATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA BUT WELCOMED INITIATIVES THAT INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MIGHT UNDERTAKE IN SPIRIT OF UN AND OAU RESOLUTIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA. ON NAMIBIA, TOLBERT EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR BOTH SWAPO AND "LAUADALBE EFFORTS" OF FIVE POWERS.

8. NIGERIA'S OBASANJO DELIVERED SPEECH THAT TOOK CENTRIST POSITION ON ZIMBABWE, SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA. HE CALLED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOR INCREASED PRESSURE ON WEST RE SANCTION ON SOUTH AFRICA, BUT WAS GENERALLY POSITIVE ON ANGLO-AMERICAN AND FIVE POWER INITIATIVES. OBASANJO ALSO INDICATED NIGERIA'S WILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE ITS QUOTA OF MONEY AND ARMS TO LIBERATE ZIMBABWE AND TO SUPPORT STRUGGLE IN NAMIBIA.

9. ON QUESTION OF INCREASING NUMBER OF INTER-AFRICAN DISPUTES, OBASANJO OBSERVED THAT DESPERATE SITUATIONS CALLED FOR DESPERATE SOLUTIONS. HE CALLED FOR EXPANSION OF POWERS OF OAU COMMISSION ON MEDIATION, CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION AND CREATION OF STANDING COMMITTEE OF FIVE TO SEVEN MEMBER STATES WHO WOULD MEET AT SHORTEST POSSIBLE NOTICE TO DEFUSE AND NEUTRALIZE SITUATIONS WHICH COULD BRING ARMED CONFLICT. UNDER TERMS OF HIS PROPOSAL, BOTH OAU CHAIRMAN AND SEC GEN WOULD HAVE TO PLAY ACTIVE ROLE IN PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE.

10. COMMENT: MOBUTU RESERVATION ON SHABA IS FURTHER EVIDENCE THAT MODERATES INTEND MAINTAIN DURING SUMMIT FORTHRIGHT STANCE THEY ADOPTED AT CM. SEVERAL DELEGATES FROM MODERATE STATES HAVE REMARKED HAPPILY ON "OPEN" AND "CLEAN" ATMOSPHERE OF LIBREVILLE CM WHERE, THEY NOTE, ALL PARTIES HAVE SPOKEN THEIR MINDS IN FULL RATHER THAN TIP TOEING AROUND ISSUES. MODERATES, THEY SAY, HAVE FINALLY TAKEN GLOVES OFF AND ABANDONED DEFENSIVE POSTURE WHICH SO LONG CHARACTERIZED THEIR RESPONSE TO RADICAL ATTACKS, AND IT IS CLEAR THEY ARE ENJOYING THEIR UNACCUSTOMED MUSCLE FLEXING.

11. MOST DIFFICULT ISSUE FOR MODERATES MAY TURN OUT TO BE HORN. AS MEMBER OF ZAIRE DELEGATION NOTED, ETHIOPIA HAS OAU PRINCIPLES ON ITS SIDE IN FIGHTING FOR ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, AND NO OAU MEMBER STATE CAN OPENLY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONDONDE DISMEMBERMENT. AT SAME TIME, MOST MODERATES
TEND NATURALLY TO LOINE UP WITH SUDAN AND FIND EPMG
REPUGNANT. THUS, THEY FACE REAL DILEMMA ON THIS ISSU,
AND SHAPE OF SOLUTION NOT YET IN SIGHT. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV01678
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770237-0626
Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770794/aaaaddqk.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Reference: 77 LIBREVILLE 1677
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1972756
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU SUMMIT II-JULY 3
TAGS: PORG, GB, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f0335171-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009